

News Release

13th Coast Guard District Public Affairs



Date: Nov. 5, 2010

Contact: 13th District Public Affairs













UPDATE - Clean-up of creosote discharge in Sinclair Inlet, Bremerton, Wash.

SEATTLE – Cascade Natural Gas, with Coast Guard oversight, has a plan set in place to perform clean-up activities for the Oct. 5, 2010, discharge of creosote. Nighttime operations are to commence Nov. 5 and are expected to be completed Nov. 7, 2010.

The abandoned and broken cement pipe was discovered in the intertidal area near the former location of the Bremerton Manufactured Gas Plant that operated from the 1930s to the 1950s, leading the Coast Guard to determine that action is required.

A Unified Command (UC) has been established to address the creosote discharge in Sinclair Inlet. U.S. Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Washington departments of Ecology and Natural Resources, and Kitsap County Health District have agreed to let Cascade Natural Gas assume responsibility for removing the creosote from the shoreline and water. The UC will oversee the immediate clean-up operation until its completion.

The amount of the release is unknown, but is thought to be minimal. A pneumatic plug has been inserted into the pipe to prevent further discharge. The upcoming nighttime activities will include:

- Sealing and removing portions of the pipe.
- Backfilling the excavation with clean beach material created from pipe removal.
- Placing a protective mat over impacted sediments.
- Transporting removed materials to a licensed disposal facility.
- Continued maintenance of a containment system until the cleanup action is complete.

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